SWIFT

(1) William Swyft came from England to America probably in the Great Boston immigration of 1630–31. Savage says he probably came from Bocking, County Essex, or vicinity, but all Bocking Parish records were burned about the time of the Restoration. He may have descended from Robert Swyft and his wife Ann, whose tomb is in Rotherham Parish Church in Rotherham. Ann died in 1539 and Robert in 1561. William was a proprietor in Watertown, Massachusetts, in 1634 and had been there for several years. He drew various proprietors lots in Watertown but sold his property in 1637 and removed to Sandwich, where he bought the largest farm in town. In 1642 he served in Lieutenant John Blackmer's Company. He died before January, 1643 as his Inventory was shown at Court there and amounted to £72 11s. On March 7, 1643 "Letters of Administration are graunted to Joane Swyft of Sandwich to administer upon her husbandes estate and to pay the debts as farr as the estate will amount unto, by equal proporcons, and is bound to the Gov. and Assistantes to do it, & Daniell Wing with her." Joan survived her husband 20 years and died in Sandwich, November 26, 1663. Her will is in the Plymouth Colony Records, and the Inventory amounted to £105 6s.

(2) William Swift was born in England before 1627. He accompanied his father to America and stayed with him until he settled in Sandwich in the spring of 1637. He married Ruth ———— and lived at Sandwich until his death in January, 1705/06. In the Sandwich Town Records he is mentioned in 1643 as able to bear arms; in 1653, with his Mother "Jhona" and 17 others, he united in a call to the pastor, Mr. Leveridge; on March 1, 1654, with three others, he engaged to build a mill; on May 29, 1655, he engaged with others to build a place for publick meetings and to contribute 15 shillings to it. There is a record of his land boundaries in 1658 and more land was granted him in 1660. He was constable in 1660 and 1668, "Rater" in 1664 and 1667, and selectman from 1673 to 1676, and in 1678, 1680 and 1681. He is recorded among 52 freemen of Sandwich in 1675. At a Town Meeting June 21, 1678, he was chosen Deputy to the General Court, and in 1679 he was made surveyor. He served on many Town Committees in regard to the settlement of boundaries and the payment of accounts, and represented Sandwich several times at meetings at Yarmouth and Barnstable.

(3) William Swift was born August 28, 1654 and was a carpenter by trade. He married Elizabeth Thomson, who was born in 1654. She was the daughter of Lieutenant John Thomson, who married Mary, daughter of Francis Cooke of the *Mayflower*. William Swift is mentioned in the Sandwich records as voting for town officers. He was a Grand Juryman in 1680 and on August 18, 1681 the Town voted to pay him £1 for his services on the Jury for eight days. In

SWIFT

From the Swift Genealogy

William Swift came from Bocking, Suffolk County, England, in the great Boston immigration of 1630–1, and settled at Watertown, Mass., where he was a proprietor in 1636.

In the Great Dividends of Town Lands, July 25, 1636, William Swift drew No. 14, being a forty-acre lot. In 1636–7 he drew a five-acre lot at "Beaver Brook Plowlands." In 1641, he sold and moved to Sandwich, Mass., the farm he bought there was the largest farm in Sandwich, was owned in 1887 by his lineal descendant, Shadrach Freeman Swift.

William Swift married Joan Sisson; he died in 1643–4; she survived him about twenty years. Her will, dated November 26, 1663, bequeathed to Daniel Wing's two sons, Samuel and John, and to her grandchildren, and others; her son William was made executor. Children of William[1] Swift, and Joan (Sisson) Swift.

WILLIAM[2] b. in England, about 1627; d. at Sandwich, Mass., Jan. 1705–6. He was deputy to the General Court.
HANNAH m. Daniel Wing, Nov. 5, 1641.
EASTER m. Ralph Allen, 1645.
WILLIAM m. Ruth ———.

William[2] Swift married Ruth ———. Their children:

HANNAH m. ——— Tobey.
WILLIAM[3] b. Aug. 28, 1654.
RUTH d. young.
EPHRAIM b. June 6, 1656; m. Sarah ———.
MARY b. April 7, 1659; m. Ezra Perry.
SAMUEL b. April 16, 1662; m. Mary ———.
JIREH m. Abigal Gibbs.
TEMPERANCE m. Deacon Timothy Bourne.
EASTER m. ——— Gibbs.
DINAH m. ——— Perry.
JOSIAH m. Mary Bodfish; second, Experience Nye.

1643 Records of Sandwich, Mass.—Able to bear arms, William Swift. Wm[3] Swyft, will, December 15, 1705–6.

Wm[3] Swyft was born August 28, 1654, and married Elisabeth Hudson, of Sandwich, Mass. He was a carpenter by trade. Their children:

born in the town of Falmouth June 18, 1825, and was descended from one of the oldest and best known families of Cape Cod.

(I) William Swift, the founder of the family in New England, was a native of Bocking, County of Essex, England, and came to New England in 1634, stopping first at Watertown, of which he was a proprietor in 1636. He sold his property there in 1637 and removed to Sandwich, where he spent the remainder of his life and where he died about 1641. His wife Joan bore him two children, William and Hannah, and after the death of her husband she married Daniel Wing, Nov. 5, 1642. She died Jan. 31, 1664.

(II) William Swift (2), son of William, born in England, came to the New World with his parents and settled at Sandwich, Barnstable county. He represented his town in the General Court, 1673, 1674, 1677 and 1678. He died in the latter part of 1705. To him and his wife Ruth were born the following children: William, born Aug. 28, 1654; Ephraim, born June 6, 1656; Mary, born April 7, 1659; Samuel, born Aug. 10, 1662; Josiah; Jireh; Temperance; Esther, and Dianah.

(III) William Swift (3), son of William (2), born Aug. 28, 1654, was a carpenter by occupation and made his home at Sandwich, where he died in 1701. To him and his wife Elizabeth were born children as follows: William, Jan. 24, 1679; Benjamin, 1682; Joseph, November, 1687; Samuel, December, 1690; Joanna, March 9, 1693 (married Thomas Gibbs, of Sandwich); Thomas, December, 169–; Elizabeth (married John Gibbs in November, 1716) and Thankful (married Benjamin Morey, Nov. 3, 1715), twins, Jan. 11, 1696; Josiah; and Ebenezer.

(IV) William Swift (4), son of William (3), born Jan. 24, 1679, married Lydia.

(V) William Swift (5), son of William (4) and Lydia Swift, born in 1719 in Falmouth, Mass., married for his first wife, Nov. 29, 1744, Doreas Hatch, of Falmouth. On Sept. 1, 1772, he married (second) Mehitabel Hallett, and died Aug. 7, 1809. Children: Solomon, born Oct. 15, 1745; William, born Feb. 17, 1747; John, who died on a prison ship while serving in the Revolutionary war; Thomas, who also died on a prison ship during the Revolution; Mary, who married Richard Weeks; Job, born in 1759; Jethiro (all these born to the first marriage); Hallett, born in 1774; Lydia, who married Walter Turner, Sept. 5, 1799; and John, born July 10, 1780.

(VI) John Swift, son of William (5) and Mehitabel (Hallett) Swift, born in Falmouth, born Sept. 12, 1752. They made their home in Falmouth. On Nov. 6, 1825, he married (second) Patience Price, born in 1763, who died July 4, 1837. His children were all born to the first union, as follows: Elijah, Aug. 16, 1774; Phebe, June 12, 1776 (married Solomon Crowell); John, Aug. 5, 1778; Reuben Eldred, Sept. 12, 1780; Thomas, April 24, 1783; Emma Ann, Aug. 8, 1785 (married David W. Gillison and, second, Rev. Mr. Boyd); Lucy Smith, Oct. 12, 1787 (married Dec. 22, 1808, Nathaniel Nye); William, Feb. 13, 1790; Martha, Sept. 17, 1792 (married Feb. 25, 1813, Nathaniel Nye); Ezekiel Eldred, Aug. 10, 1796.

(VII) John Swift, son of William (6) and Martha (Eldred) Swift, born Aug. 5, 1778, married June 28, 1797, Mehitable Robinson, who was born in 1782 at Monomascoag, Mass. He died Oct. 7, 1843, she in 1845. Children: Micah Robinson, born Dec. 24, 1798; Elijah, Oct. 12, 1800; Joseph, Sept. 22, 1802; Chloe Price, July 15, 1804 (married Sept. 15, 1825, Capt. Isaac H. Hamblin); John, Feb. 12, 1806; Emma Ann Gillison, June 7, 1808 (died March 7, 1809); Mehitable, June 20, 1810; Phebe Crowell, March 15, 1812 (married Abishai Pease); Lucy Nye, May 24, 1813 (married Perry Freeborn); Jane Nye, Sept. 17, 1815 (married William Freeborn); Jotham Sewell, May 13, 1818; Harriet Frances, March 30, 1821 (died Sept. 30, 1849).

(VIII) Micah Robinson Swift, son of John, born Dec. 24, 1798, married Dec. 1, 1822, Hannah Chadwick, born July 16, 1799. She died June 22, 1885. They had children as follows: Ephraim Chadwick, born Dec. 13, 1823, who died July 22, 1824; Charles Francis, born June 18, 1825; and Micah Robinson, Jr., born Nov. 4, 1827, who died Jan. 15, 1852.

(IX) Charles Francis Swift, son of Micah R., received his education in the local public schools at Falmouth and at the academy of his native town. While still at school he entered the Yarmouth *Register* printing office, at the age of sixteen years, and learned something of that art, and in 1847 he became associate editor of the Yarmouth *Register*, in 1850 becoming its editor. For a period of fifty-two years he continued to fill that position. The length of his connection with that paper, and the dignity and ability with which he discharged his responsibilities, under the most trying circumstances, made him a notable figure all over the State. He was a strong anti-slavery man and fought many hard battles